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Remarks:

Consideration of the application in view of the above amendments and following remarks is requested. Claims 23, 27, and 37-40 are now in the case. Claims 1-22, 24-25, 28-29, and 31-36 have been canceled as being directed to a non-elected Restriction Group. Claims 26 and 30 have been canceled as being redundant in view of claims 23 and 27. Claims 23 and 27 have been amended to be directed to the elected nucleic acid sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1. Claims 37-40 have been newly added as dependent from and further narrowing independent pending claims 23 and 27.

Support for newly added claims can be found in the specification, for example, in Example 14, pages 107-109.

Applicants reserve the right to prosecute claims to cancelled subject matter in one or more continuing applications.

If the Examiner believes that a telephone interview would expedite prosecution of the above-identified patent application, please call the undersigned at (206) 442-6752.

Respectfully Submitted,

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